

REMARKS

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The specification has been amended at paragraph 0054 to remove the reference to table III and substitute reference to table IV.

Claims 1-6, 10-16, and 20 are in this application. Claims 7-9 and 17-19 have been canceled.

Claims 1-6, 10-16 and 20 have been amended.

Claims 1-6 and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claims 1-6 and 20 have been amended to recite specific output as disclosed at paragraph 0030 and in Figure 8.

Claims 1-6, 10-16 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 first and second paragraphs for failure to describe steps for determining **functional** similarity between portions of gene expression profiles.

Claims 1-6, 10-16 and 20 have been amended to remove the word functional from the preamble.

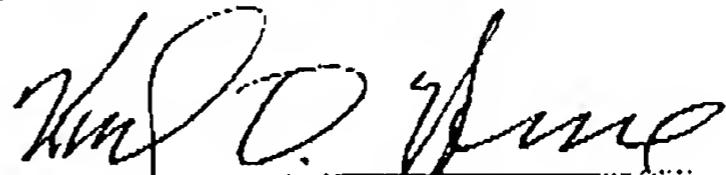
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Accordingly it is believed that the claims are now clear and definite and are drawn to a novel and unobvious way of clustering gene expression profiles without implying that a cluster represents a functional similarity.

Respectfully submitted,

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